The Cathedral Church of Christ

Philadelphia

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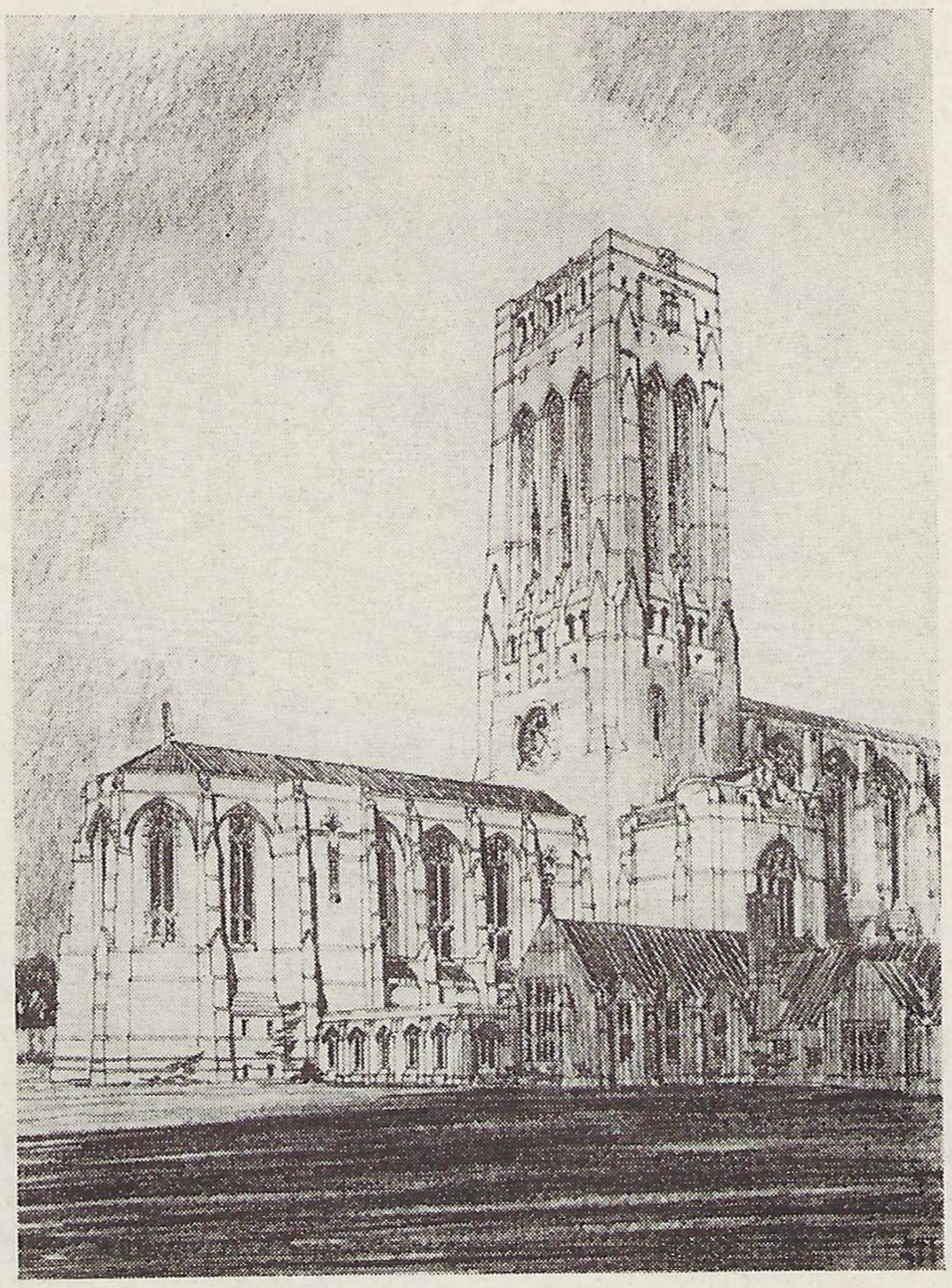


THE LADY CHAPEL AND CARILLON TOWER

Chapter of the Cathedral Church of Christ

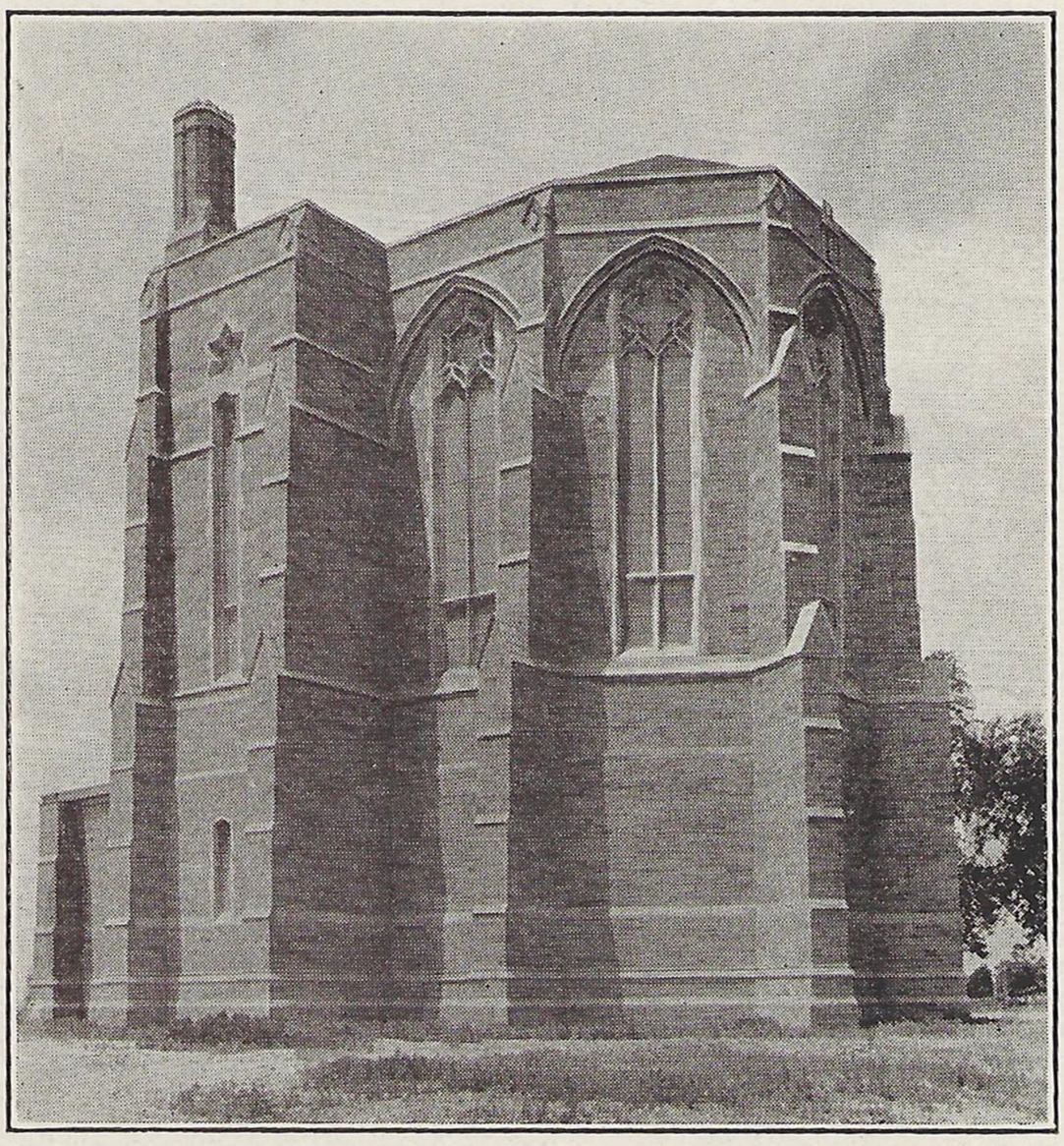
THE RT. REV. FRANCIS M. TAITT, D.D., *Bishop of Pennsylvania*
MR. SAMUEL FREDERICK HOUSTON, *Senior Lay Canon*
MR. WILLIAM ELLIS SCULL, *Registrar*
REV. JAMES M. NIBLO, *Assistant Registrar*
MR. LOUIS A. RUNK, *Treasurer*
MR. GEORGE ROSS, *Counsellor*

Clerical Canons

REV. G. G. BARTLETT, S.T.D.
REV. G. C. CARTER, D.D.
REV. E. C. EARP
REV. J. O. MCILHENNY, D.D.
REV. J. M. NIBLO
REV. W. C. PATTERSON
REV. G. H. TOOP, D.D.
REV. F. L. VERNON, D.D.

Lay Canons

MR. H. R. BROWN
MR. S. F. HOUSTON
MR. M. LLOYD, JR.
MR. J. V. MERRICK
MR. L. J. MORRIS
MR. F. H. MOSS
MR. L. A. RUNK
MR. W. E. SCULL



The completed first unit of the Cathedral Building
THE CHAPEL OF ST. MARY

SCHEDULE OF SUNDAY SERVICES

9.00 A. M. HOLY COMMUNION
11.00 A. M. MORNING PRAYER AND SERMON
4.00 P. M. EVENING PRAYER AND SERMON

REV. JAMES M. NIBLO, *Canon Residentiary*
Norristown, Penna. Telephone, Norristown 3551

The Cathedral Project

THE project of building a Cathedral for the Diocese of Pennsylvania took concrete form at an informal meeting on June 12, 1913, with the following gentlemen present: the Rt. Rev. Philip M. Rhinelander, D.D., Bishop of Pennsylvania; Messrs. George Wharton Pepper, John J. Collier, Samuel Frederick Houston, Eli Kirk Price, Frank H. Moss and William Ellis Scull, acting secretary. Meetings with groups of Laymen and Laywomen of the Diocese continued from time to time as the idea and desire for a Cathedral grew until All Saints' Day, 1919, when the Charter of the Cathedral Church of Christ was granted as follows:

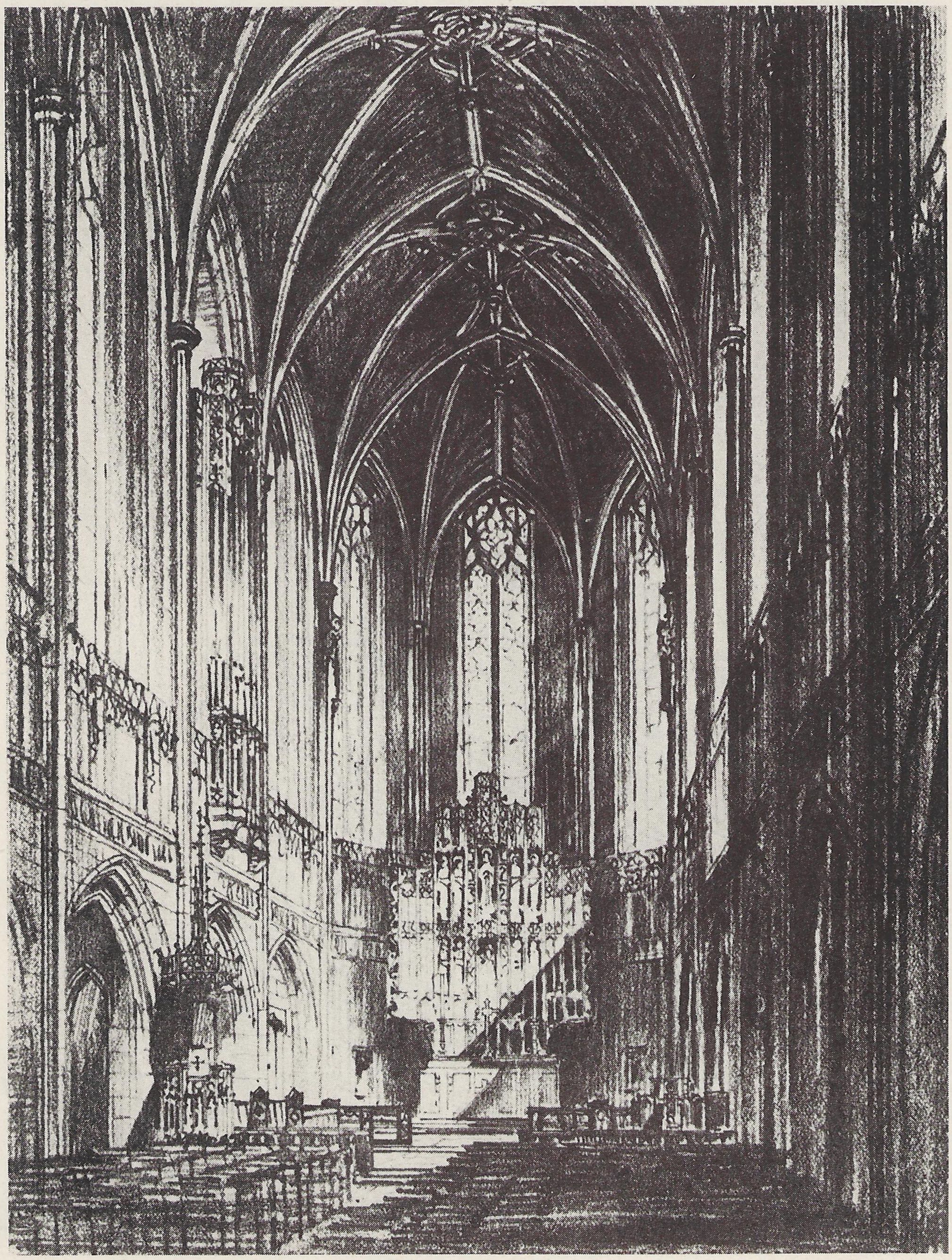
> The subscribers hereto, all of whom are citizens of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, having associated themselves together for the support of public worship and being desirous of becoming incorporated in accordance with the Corporation Act of April 29, 1874, and its supplements, hereby certify.
>
> I. The name of the proposed corporation is CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF CHRIST.
>
> II. The purpose for which it is formed is the support of public worship of Almighty God according to the faith and discipline of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States of America.
>
> III. The business of the corporation is to be transacted in the City of Philadelphia.
>
> IV. The corporation is to exist perpetually.
>
> V. The names and residences of the subscribers are: Right Reverend Philip Mercer Rhinelander, Right Reverend Thomas James Garland, Reverend George Lynde Richardson, Right Reverend Samuel Babcock Booth, Charles Biddle, John J. Collier, Eli Kirk Price, Benjamin Rush, William Ellis Scull, Andrew Wheeler, Sydney L. Wright, and Charlton Yarnall, all of Philadelphia.

* * *

The life of the Cathedral project was carried on through joint alignment of the Chapter with the Vestry of the Diocesan Church of St. Mary, the latter place of worship being considered the Bishop's Church, until January 27, 1921, when the Vestry of the Diocesan Church of St. Mary transferred its work and property to the Chapter of the Cathedral Church of Christ.

Just eleven years later, on January 27, 1932, the Chapter passed a resolution to prepare plans for the partial erection of the Chapel of St. Mary, which was to be the first building of the Cathedral to be erected on the site of ground in Upper Roxborough, purchased by the Chapter toward the close of 1926.

On June 25, 1932, the Rt. Rev. Francis M. Taitt, D.D., turned the first spade of earth at a service of blessing the site, thereby beginning the erection of the first unit of the Cathedral Church of Christ. Since then the building of the Apse and three Bays of the Chapel of St. Mary have been completed, so far as funds allow, and services of the Church are being maintained.



ARCHITECTS' DRAWING OF THE INTERIOR OF THE CHAPEL OF ST. MARY

What is the Cathedral?

It is the concrete expression of man's highest and noblest aspirations. Without doubt, the Cathedrals of the Middle Ages, beginning with those of the 11th century, and ending with the close of the 15th century, are man's supreme accomplishment. The culture of Greece or the power and wealth of Rome did not eclipse the motivating force of the Nazarene, His gentle Mother, and the galaxy of Saints who infused the craftsmen of those illustrious centuries with worship which they put into enduring stone. They stand as models today, and while we would not follow slavishly the details, we may adjust the principles used in those wondrous days to our modern conditions, and produce a vital organism completely adapted to the needs of the day.

Modern times certainly lack the romance and sentiment of religion, and are thirsting for the inspiration to revive them. What could be more potent than the Cathedral!*

* * *

An Extract from Bishop Garland's Address before the Diocesan Convention May 5, 1925:

> But there is no Diocese in America where a Cathedral Foundation, with a building amply endowed, could make a greater contribution to the whole community than in the Diocese of Pennsylvania. I do not minimize the claims of Puritan New England, nor do I underestimate the history of Virginia since the first settlement at Jamestown; nevertheless it is a fact that there is no city so expressive of the continuity of the Church and Nation as our own, where the Church was organized and where the Nation was born. Looking back to our historic background and our Colonial history, remembering that the Revolution centered around this great City, and that the Keystone State was the turning point in the Civil War, we all realize that though cathedrals are built elsewhere, there is a distinct atmosphere in Philadelphia and one that breathes the spirit of the Nation. There never can be, properly speaking, a *national* cathedral in the United States, but when a cathedral is built in Philadelphia it is bound to become the Mecca of our people, as it will bear witness to the faith of our fathers and to their contribution in the making of our Nation.

* * *

The future of the Cathedral of the Diocese of Pennsylvania awaits the generosity of the Churchmen and Churchwomen who have vision and faith and financial means to make possible the construction of this enterprise for the greater glory of God and the salvation and refreshment and inspiration of the souls of men. The site for the Cathedral is the highest point in Philadelphia, centrally located in the City and Diocese, though far removed from the business district. As it will some day stand, holding high aloft the Cross of Christ, to point men and women the way of life, the Cathedral will be seen from every section of the city and the surrounding country.

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* From an article, "The Cathedral Vision for Philadelphia," by Frank R. Watson, architect for the Chapel of St. Mary of the Cathedral Church of Christ, appearing in the Easter, 1933, number of *The Cathedral Age*.

The various units that go into the composition of a Cathedral offer opportunity to give thank-offerings and memorials, or to make provision for the same in wills and estates. There are the different parts of the Cathedral proper to consider in this matter, Sanctuary, high altar, choir and stalls, the two crossings and bays of the Nave, baptistry and Chapels, construction of the last three bays of St. Mary's Chapel and the Carillon Tower, and many stained glass windows. The comprehensive plan calls for Bishop's House, Deanry and Canon's Residences, a Chapter House, Synod Hall, houses for other clergy and Homes for the Aged and Orphans. Every Ecclesiastical and Christian social work could find place, and form a part of the united purpose of a Diocesan Cathedral on this unique site in Upper Roxborough. To provide for these will mean a lasting memorial or thank-offering to the glory of God and of helpfulness to the souls and bodies of those generations yet to come.

The Cathedral League

An organization of interested lay church people to the Cathedral project was formed some years ago under the name of the Cathedral League. They represented various Parishes in the Diocese, and as friends of the Cathedral, paid yearly dues, and interested others in this effort of the Church.

The following names represented the League officially when it was first organized:

Honorary President

MRS. ALEXANDER VAN RENSSELAER

Honorary Vice-Presidents

MRS. ARTHUR BIDDLE
MRS. EDWARD W. BOK
MRS. GEORGE W. CHILDS DREXEL
MRS. THOMAS J. GARLAND
MRS. HENRY S. GROVE
MRS. SAMUEL F. HOUSTON
MRS. ARTHUR H. LEA
MRS. FRANK H. MOSS
MRS. ARTHUR E. NEWBOLD
MRS. SAMUEL P. ROTAN
MRS. WILLIAM J. TAYLOR

Executive Committee

Chairman, MISS ELIZABETH ROSS; *Treasurer,* MRS. LIVINGSTON BIDDLE; *Secretary,* MISS ELIZABETH MORGAN; MISS VIRGINIA CARTER, MRS. BRUCE FORD, MRS. GORDON A. HARDWICK, MRS. STACY B. LLOYD, MISS ELIZABETH W. PHARO, MRS. C. LOTHROP RITCHIE, MISS JULIA SINKLER, MRS. HENRY PEPPER VAUX.

For some years the League has been quiescent. The time has come for it to renew its life and helpfulness. An effort will be made to secure more members, seeking a fair representation from every Parish and Mission in the Diocese. Membership may be had in this Diocesan Organization through the payment of a yearly sum of money according to the ability to give, and the saying of the Cathedral Prayer. The income will be devoted to carrying on the Services at the Cathedral, meeting taxes and interest charges and enlarging the work of this Diocesan Church.

Active Members	$ 1.00 a year
Contributing Members	5.00 a year
Sustaining Members	10.00 a year
Benefactors	100.00 a year And Over

Make all Bequests to the Cathedral Church of Christ, Philadelphia, Pa.

A Letter from Mr. George Wharton Pepper

June 13, 1934.

Dear Mr. Scull:

I have a firm belief that in great metropolitan areas our parochial system is necessarily inadequate. There must be a Bishop's Church from which Diocesan work can be inspired and directed and to which multitudes of people may resort who either are sojourning temporarily within its sphere of influence or are not yet ready to relate themselves definitely to any parish. Such a Church should have a strategic situation and should be the highest expression of beauty as respects architecture, glass and the quality of its provision for public worship.

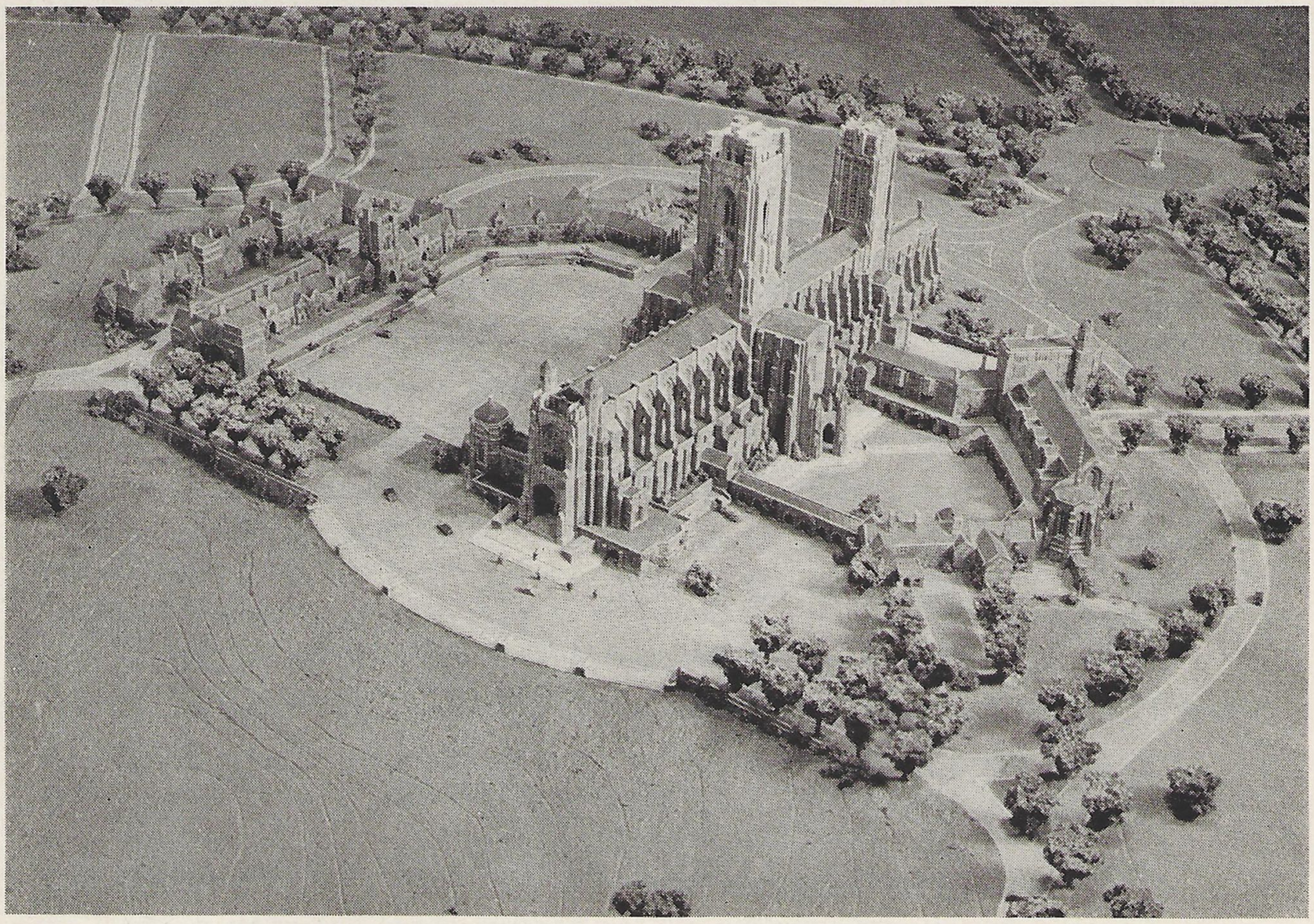
The metropolitan area of Philadelphia is no exception to the general rule and the Roxborough site seems to me to fulfill all the requirements of location when regard is had to the probable course of events during the next fifty years.

For these reasons I am wholeheartedly in sympathy with the project to preserve the Roxborough site and to provide for the erection of the Cathedral as soon as this can wisely be accomplished.

If the Cathedral is really to be the People's Church it must provide satisfaction for all wholesome varieties of religious experience. Worship, prayer, praise and silent meditation must each be recognized as essential to religious self-expression. The beauty of Catholic ceremonial and the simplicity and quietness which characterize Friends' Meeting are alike in place in a Cathedral. While there may be different degrees of emphasis on the sacramental aspect of religion, there is certainly a universal craving for symbolism in some degree. The gift to the Cathedral of a bench from a Meeting House is essentially the gift of a symbol of simplicity and spiritual reality—an outward and visible sign of that inner light by which devout Friends strive to walk. Such a gift should be welcomed as an inspiring addition to the treasures of the Cathedral. In the giving and receiving of such symbolic gifts the essential unity of all sincere Christians is manifested.

Faithfully yours,

(Signed) GEORGE WHARTON PEPPER.



MODEL SHOWING ULTIMATE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF
PHILADELPHIA CATHEDRAL ENTERPRISE

Location and Means of Reaching Cathedral Site

THE CATHEDRAL GROUNDS IS SITUATED ON RIDGE AVENUE, NEAR MANATAWNA,
IN UPPER ROXBOROUGH, PHILADELPHIA

Passengers originating downtown may exchange from Broad Street Subway to Route R Bus at Broad and Erie Avenue—token plus 6 cents. Busses run every fifteen minutes on Sundays, more frequently on week-days.

Passengers may exchange from Route A N B to Route R westbound at 29th and Hunting Park Avenue. 10 cents plus 3 cents.

Passengers from Rittenhouse Square—Board Route 21 at 18th and Market Streets, exchange to Route R westbound at 17th and Erie Avenue.

Motorists may reach Ridge Avenue as it intersects Fairmount Park at Wissahickon, or at Barren Hill, continuing down the Ridge Road.